This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. – 32. (Canceled)

33. (New) A method for eliminating or reducing normal but undesired adipose tissue in a patient which comprises administering a controlled release formulation to the patient by injection into the adipose tissue at a local area such that undesired adipose tissue in the local area is selectively eliminated or reduced, said formulation comprising a substance which eliminates or prevents formation of the cells of adipose tissue, said substance being provided in a controlled release carrier.

34. (New) The method of claim 33, where the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of cells of adipose tissue is TNF-α.

35. (New) The method of claim 33, where the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of cells of adipose tissue is a cytokine regulatory agent; a protein affecting fat metabolism; leptin; orexin; an antisense RNA molecule which knocks out the specific activity of a protein needed for fat cell maintenance; a DNA, either in the form of plasmid or virus, which induces the expression of apoptosis-inducing factors; a drug that kills fat cells; methotrexate; bromo-deoxyuridine; actinomycin D; nocodazole; brefeldin A; a peptide, having functionality which kills fat cells; prolactin; a beta-adrenergic stimulator; or, an alpha-2 adrenergic inhibitor.

36. (New) The method of claim 33, where the controlled release carrier comprises a poly(lactide-co-glycolide) material.

37. (New) The method of claim 34, where the controlled release carrier comprises a poly(lactide-co-glycolide) material.

38. **(New)** The method of claim 33, where the controlled release formulation is injected multiple times distributed in the local area of the undesired adipose tissue.

39. **(New)** The method of claim 34, where the controlled release formulation is injected multiple times distributed in the local area of the undesired adipose tissue.

40. **(New)** The method of claim 33, where release of the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of the cells of adipose tissue is effected over at least 3 days by the controlled release carrier.

41. **(New)** The method of claim 34, where release of the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of the cells of adipose tissue is effected over at least 3 days by the controlled release carrier.

42. **(New)** The method of claim 40, where the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of cells of adipose tissue is released in a substantially equal amount for each of the days of release.

43. **(New)** The method of claim 41, where the substance which eliminates or prevents formation of cells of adipose tissue is released in a substantially equal amount for each of the days of release.

44. **(New)** The method of claim 34, where the TNF-α is provided in poly(lactide-co-glycolide) microspheres as the controlled release carrier in an amount of from 0.1 to 20% by weight.

45. **(New)** The method of claim 37, where the controlled release carrier provides in vivo release of the TNF-α for a period of 7 to 60 days.

46. **(New)** The method of claim 33, where the controlled release carrier is comprised of a poly(lactide), poly(glycolide), poly(lactic acid), poly(glycolic acid), polyanhydride, polyorthoester, polyetherester, polycaprolactone, polyesteramide,

polycarbonate, polycyanoacrylate, polyurethane, polyacrylate, blends or copolymers of the above polymers, a hydrogel, an alginate or modified alginate, or a polyethylene glycol group-containing macromolecule for conjugation of the active substance.

47. **(New)** The method claim 33 wherein the formulation comprises two or more substances in the controlled release carrier having a combined action of eliminating or preventing formation of the cells of adipose tissue.

48. **(New)** The method of claim 47, wherein at least one of the substances is released from the controlled release carrier later in time than another of the substances.

49. **(New)** The method of claim 48, wherein a first substance released is an anti-angiogenic compound which hinders the blood supply to adipose tissue and a second substance is released later in time which induces apoptosis in adipose tissue.

50. **(New)** The method of claim 33, wherein the controlled release carrier is provided in the form of injectable microparticles or as an injectable solution or gel.